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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania/USSR/Bulgaria/Albania

REPORT

SUBJECT Ground and Security Forces

DATE DISTR. 26 October 1954

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

USAF review completed.

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1. Soviet Army Strength

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- a. There were four Soviet armored divisions in Rumania each of which consisted of at least 10,000 troops. One division each was located at Constanta, Bucharest, Focsani (N 54-42, E 27-12), and Turnu-Severin (N 44-38, E 22-40). Each division had about 180 tanks of an unknown type and six AAA batteries.
- b. Four Soviet infantry divisions with at least 10,000 troops were in each of the following locations: Cluj, Iasi, the Stalin (Brasov)-Fagaras (N 45-51, E 24-59) area, and the Braila-Galati area. Eight Soviet infantry divisions were stationed from the Yugoslov frontier to the Carpathian mountains.

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2. Soviet Security Forces (Land-Based Border Guards)

Two Border Guard enlisted men were posted at the bow and stern in Soviet ports. They wore khaki-colored uniforms with green shoulder boards and visored caps with green tops. They were armed with what the Rumanians called a "balalaika", an SMG with a circular magazine which resembled the musical instrument of that name. Soviet Border Guards were also members of the Soviet ship paneling teams which boarded non-Soviet ships in each port to make an inspection prior to docking.²

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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3. Soviet Maritime Border Guard

- a. [redacted] Soviet Maritime Border Guards [redacted] in Soviet Black Sea waters equipped with wooden cutters. 25X1
The cutters were about 10 t. in weight, 20 m. in length, and 3 m. at the widest part of the beam; they had no superstructure, did not mount a visible weapon, but were equipped with search-lights. The maximum speed was about 10 nautical mph. [redacted]
[redacted] there was some form of ship-to-shore communication, possibly ship-to-shore telephone, [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] The crew of these cutters was between 10 and 15 men; [redacted] 25X1
The crewmen wore a uniform that resembled that of the Soviet sailors, except that they had black shoulder boards with green piping, round green-topped hats with a darker green hat band with no bill, and the long collar on the jacket was green. 3. 25X1

- b. The Border Guard cutters escorted vessels in and out of Soviet ports and challenged vessels to give their identification and business. One Border Guard craft normally trailed the vessel to ascertain that nothing was thrown overboard or that any one left the craft prior to docking. These cutters usually operated singly. The use of binoculars by anyone on the incoming vessel was prohibited from the point of interception into the harbor.

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] three Border Guard vessels each at Odessa, Batumi, and Novorossisk; and [redacted]
[redacted] 20 or 30 naval Border Guards at each of these ports. At Poti [redacted] only one such craft [redacted] 25X1

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- c. Neither Border Guard naval units nor regular naval units seemed to patrol the Black Sea coast; [redacted]

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] The Black Sea was nearly deserted of maritime activity as compared to other bodies of water; [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] The Batumi port area was overgrown with underbrush.

4. Rumanian Army Strength

- a. [redacted] the Rumanian Army's active strength was approximately 450,000 in early 1954 and that the Rumanian Army was capable of mobilizing up to 1,500,000 troops. 25X1
- b. During World War II there were officers' schools in the following cities:
- (1) Bucharest - artillery
 - (2) Targoviste (N 44-56, E 25-26) - cavalry
 - (3) Ploesti - infantry

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- c. [] two branches of the Rumanian Army - the infantry and artillery. The infantry uniform had shoulder boards with red piping and a hat with a red band, while the artillery had black piping on their shoulder boards and a black band on their hats.

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5. Rumanian Land-Based Naval Units

- a. Commodore (sic.) Vasile STOICULESCU (see Annex A), of the Rumanian Navy, [] had been named commanding officer of an artillery regiment made up of land-based naval personnel. STOICULESCU was to have this responsibility in addition to his position as Chief of Staff of the Sea Division (Divizia de Mare) in the Naval Ministry. [] command of this unactivated regiment had been given him in fall 1952. The unit was to man coastal batteries in the Constanta area, but that it had not been organized up to fall 1953 due to Soviet reluctance to relinquish the batteries.

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- b. [] 25X1

If there are naval infantry under the present regime, it is still in the formative stages []

- c. There was a pre-World War II and a World War II Rumanian custom to station naval units who manned field artillery-type weapons in Bucharest, because of the lack of caserne space in Constanta. These naval units were always the butt of humorous jokes about sailors being so far away from the water. The unit in Bucharest was known as the 2nd Artillery Regiment and occupied permanent military barracks 200 m. west of the north railroad station in Bucharest. [] there were other naval personnel still stationed at these barracks in Bucharest []

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During World War II there were four "semi-coastal" artillery regiments stationed along the Black Sea coast.

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- d. Rumanian naval uniforms were always patterned after those of [] and were not changed after the War. During World War II the Rumanian naval infantry and artillery wore navy uniforms rather than uniforms of the ground troops. This uniform had bell-bottoms and jumpers, three white stripes on the collar, and [] woven on the sleeve; there were no markings to identify them as naval infantry. [] never saw naval infantry personnel in uniforms similar to the Rumanian Army, i.e., khaki tunic and breeches and cavalry-type boots.⁴

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6. Possible Location of Land-Based Naval Unit Headquarters

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[] Sea Division headquarters of the Rumanian Naval Ministry was located in the new 2 or 3 story buildings in the middle of the main dike in Constanta harbor. STOICULESCU worked in one of these buildings. "Sea Division" was a World War II term for a unit which had operational control of the Rumanian naval fleet, artillery, and infantry.

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7. Rumanian Land-Based Border Guard

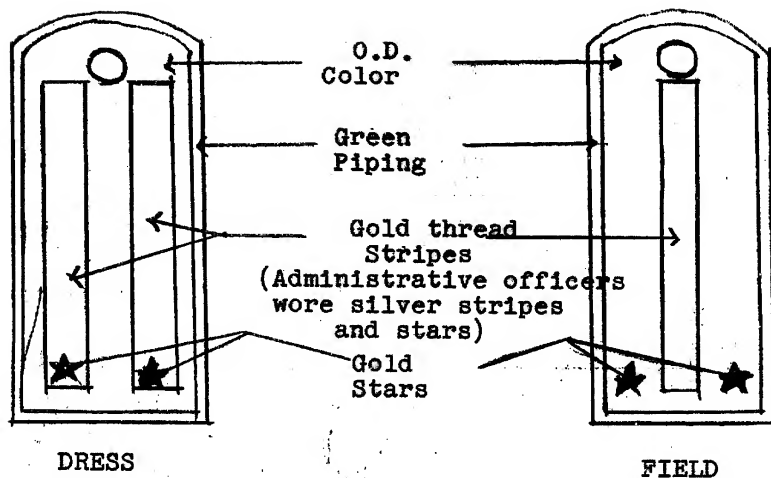
- a. The Rumanian land-based border guard (graniceri) was under the operational control of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (Ministerul Afacerilor Interne-MAI) but under the Ministry of Armed Forces (Ministerul Fortelor Armate-MFA) for administrative control, training, and logistical support.
- b. [redacted] border guard strength might be estimated at 30,000 men in two divisions. Headquarters for one division was Focsani (N 45-42, E 27-12) while the other was at Craiova. [redacted] these two divisions had a T/O strength of 16,000 to 20,000 men each, but that they were considerably under strength. These two divisions and their subordinate units were scattered throughout Rumania in the border areas.
- c. The 2nd Battalion of the 3rd Border Guard Regiment was located in Constanta as late as January 1954. This battalion had a confirmed strength of 1,000 officers and men and was subordinate to division headquarters at Focsani. Of the 1,000, approximately 140 were on duty in the harbor area. [redacted] the commanding officer of the unit, Lt. Colonel HARSOVEANU. [redacted]
- He had been commanding officer of the Constanta unit since 1950, the year in which he was promoted to his present rank. [redacted]
- d. [redacted] in Babadag (N 44-54, E 28-43), Dobrogea, [redacted] observed there a Border Guard company headquarters with a strength of 25-30 individuals. It had under its jurisdiction border guard platoons guarding coastal approaches as well as the coast.5.
- e. [redacted] the Border Guard had its own officer specialists and [redacted] engineers, signalmen, and medical men were included. [redacted] the Border Guard bunkers in Constanta were built under the supervision of Border Guard engineer officers.
- f. The Border Guard was armed only with the Soviet-style SMGs, Balalaikas; they had no heavier weapons, even machine guns. [redacted] Border Guard troops in 6-wheel, 2 x 4 rear-wheel-drive, 3-ton Skoda trucks and also in a Skoda jeep. They had no horses, motorcycles, bicycles, or planes.
- g. [redacted] Border Guard personnel were procured from a quota within the overall yearly conscriptions.
- h. The Border Guards had a winter and summer uniform, both khaki-colored. The winter uniform was made from a coarse, woolen material called "Postav". [redacted] The summer uniforms [redacted] described as "doc" (duck). Their hats had a visor and were green with a light green band; their collar tabs were also green. They had both dress and field shoulder boards, as indicated below:

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1. [redacted] officers' pay was based on rank with a separate amount paid for the position held and that such pay matters were generally regarded as confidential.

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8. Rumanian Maritime Border Guards

- a. The term Parcul Navelor Graniceri (Park for Border Guard Vessels), was obsolete; the Rumanian Maritime Border Guards were known by another term which [redacted] was a separate organization from both the land-based Border Guard and the regular naval forces. The maritime Border Guard was under the operational control of the land-based Border Guard and under the Naval Ministry for administration and support. The subordinate naval headquarters responsible for maritime Border Guard administration was the Sea Division of the Naval Ministry which also controlled naval vessels, land-based naval infantry, and land-based naval coast and field artillery units.

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- b. The craft used by this unit was a type of steel boat with an internal motor, apparently of Rumanian construction; they had no cutters or speedboats. They were 10 m. long, 3 m. wide at the beam, and weighed 5 to 6 tn. They mounted a single-barreled 25 mm. machine gun on a tripod [redacted]

The [redacted] craft had no searchlights;

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The maximum speed of this craft [redacted] seven to eight knots per hour. Enlisted men carried a Soviet-type SMG of the Balalaika variety.

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- c. [] the headquarters for the Maritime Border Guard in the Black Sea area was the port of Constanta, [] 25X1

[] The old Maritime Border Guard (Parcul Navelor Graniceri) had a fluvial element, but its vessels, two vedettes and an obsolete Austro-Hungarian gunboat, were scrapped some years ago. [] there was a total of 10 Border Guard craft [referred to above] operating out of the Constanta area. The craft had a crew of 10 each and three members were required to be aboard at all times. Of the 10, [] there was at least one helmsman and one engineer [] 25X1

[] the 10 vessels operating out of the Constanta area represented the majority, if not all the vessels, that belonged to the Maritime Border Guard units along the Rumanian Black Sea coast. The Rumanian Maritime Border Guard, [] was an ineffective organization and a half-hearted attempt on Rumania's part to copy the Soviet Maritime Border Guard system. 25X1

- d. One of the unit's main functions was conducting vessels in and out of harbors and patrolling the coast. [] The crews never attempted to board a vessel but only surveilled it to ensure that nothing was dropped over the side into coastal waters.⁶ [] it was poorly organized compared to other Rumanian security forces; [] only the Securitate (security forces) were worthwhile opponents as far as counter-intelligence ability is concerned. 25X1

- e. This unit's uniform was identical with the regular Rumanian naval uniform, both officers' and enlisted men, with one notable exception: it had a green hat band with the inscription, "Marina-Militara" (military navy) in gold letters. The rank insignia was the same as the regular navy insignia.⁷

9. Securitate - (The Security Forces)

- a. The subordination of this organization was the same as that of the land-based Border Guard (Graniceri), i.e., to the MAI for operational control and to the MFA for administration, training, and logistical support.
- b. In January 1954, [] the number of uniformed, militarized portion of the Securitate might be placed at 50,000 men which were organized into five divisions of 10,000 men each. One of these divisions had its headquarters in Bucharest, another in Craiova. Rumania was divided into administrative Securitate areas [] Each division had subordinate units which were stationed throughout the country where needed. [] these units were [] moved anywhere to carry out the operational orders of Securitate agent personnel. 25X1
- c. One such battalion at Constanta had a strength of 500 men and was under the command of Major MIHAILESCU, [] 25X1

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d. [redacted] at Babadag [redacted] a Securitate headquarters was located in the town. The commanding officer of this unit was a captain who had two lieutenant assistants. There were from 20 to 30 Securitate troops in this headquarters. The unit was a company headquarters and controlled Securitate platoons stationed in the vicinity of Babadag.⁸ 25X1

e. The equipment of the Securitate was the same as that of the land-based Border Guard, except that the Securitate sometimes carried a Mannlicher rifle on post instead of the Balalaika SMG. The Securitate units had no horses, bicycles, motorcycles, light planes, or crew-served weapons of any kind. 25X1

[redacted] Occasionally, in skirmishes with anti-regime elements, the Securitate called for army support units which consisted mostly of small numbers of very light artillery pieces; however, troops had not been used in frontal positions since the 5th Mihai Viteazu (Michael the Brave) Infantry Regiment broke while facing partisans in 1950, in the vicinity of Targoviste (N 44-56, E 25-26), and later attempted, unsuccessfully, to join the anti-regime elements. Artillery support usually consisted of a very few pieces which made a great deal of noise and caused panic among the opponents.

f. The Securitate uniforms were basically like the Rumanian Army and Border Guard uniforms in that they were a standard khaki-color and made of heavy coarse wool in the winter and duck in the summer. The cap was visored, with a blue top and a brick red hat band; collar tabs were blue with red piping. Shoulder boards were of two varieties, one for field and one for dress. They were like those of the Border Guard except for the color; the dress shoulder boards had gold thread on a blue background and red piping while the field shoulder board had a blue background, red piping, and a red center stripe. Collar tabs were blue with red piping. Head gear consisted of both a peaked service cap and an overseas-type cap.

g. [redacted] the militarized units of the Securitate drew their members from two sources: (1) from ardent young Communists who were inducted directly into the Securitate and (2) the remainder, when needed, from selected army personnel. [redacted] the majority of Securitate troops, regardless of their political feeling, did not like this service. They were chosen for this service and had no choice. They were better paid, fed, and equipped than the army but the service was more rigorous and the discipline more severe. 25X1

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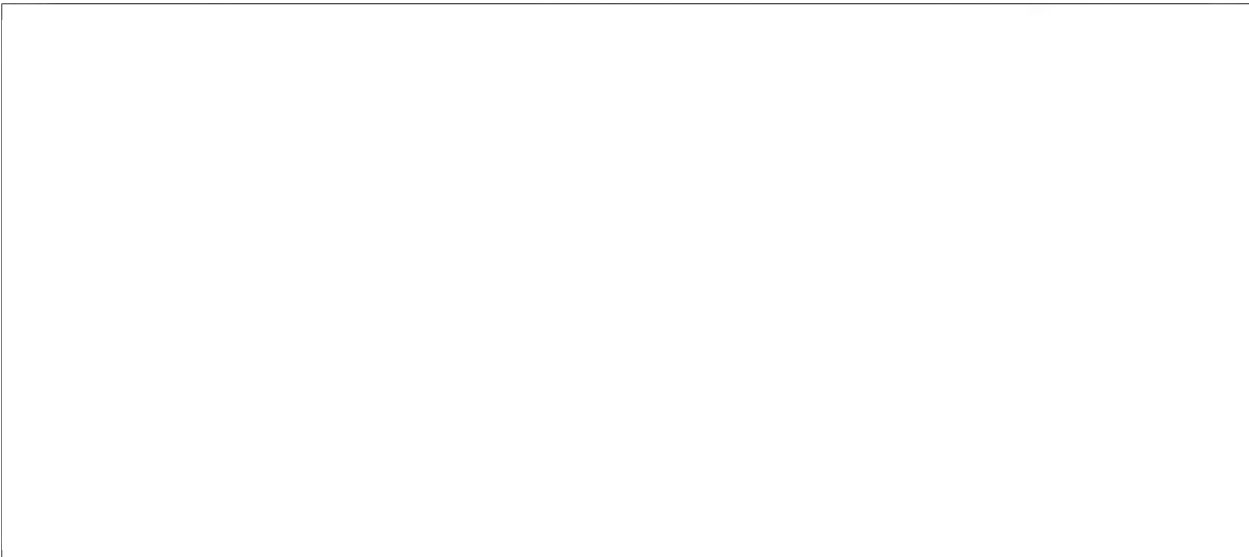
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Annex A

NAME: Vasile STOICULESCU

RANK: Commodor

ARM: Rumanian
Navy



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